

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 - 11. (CANCELED)

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A lithium battery comprising:
a generation element which generates electrical power;
a can to house the generation element, the can including first and second surfaces, the first surface including a first terminal electrically connected to the generation element and the second surface including a second terminal electrically connected to the generation element;
a protection circuit electrically coupled to the second terminal to prevent either or both of over-charging and over-discharging; and
an output lead, made of a first material or an alloy thereof, electrically coupled to the second terminal;
a first lead, electrically coupled to the first terminal, including a layer of the first material or an alloy thereof and a cladding layer made of a second material or an alloy thereof; and
a safety device that is electrically coupled to both the output lead and the first lead between the protection circuit and the first terminal, the safety device comprising:
a portion of the first lead where the cladding layer of the first lead is connected to the can;
a positive temperature coefficient (PTC) element, adjacent to the portion of the first lead such that the PTC element is separated from the can by the portion of the first lead, to interrupt a current between the output lead and the first lead upon a temperature and/or a voltage increase in the can, and
an extension of the first material or an alloy thereof of the output lead adjacent to the PTC element.
a first lead electrically connecting between and contacting the PTC element and the first terminal, wherein the first lead is made of a first layer and a second layer throughout between where the first lead contacts the PTC element and where the first lead contacts the first terminal, wherein the first layer

comprises a first material and contacts PTC element, and wherein the second layer comprises a second material and contacts the first terminal, and

a second lead electrically connecting between and contacting the PTC element and the protection circuit, wherein the second lead is made of a single layer comprising the first material.

13-14. (CANCELED)

15. (ORIGINAL) The lithium battery of claim 12, further comprising a safety vent which exhausts internal gas when pressure inside the can increases past a predetermined level, the safety vent being at the second surface of the can.

16. (ORIGINAL) The lithium battery of claim 15, wherein:

the can further comprises an opening through which the generation element is introduced into the can, and a cap which closes the opening, and

the safety vent is disposed on the cap.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lithium battery of claim 12, wherein the safety device is configured to interrupt interrupts current flowing therethrough when a voltage of the battery sharply increases.

18-34. (CANCELED)

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lithium battery of claim 12, wherein the first material comprises nickel, and wherein the second material is made of eomprises aluminum.

36-38. (CANCELED)